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The AMERICAN LEGION Sauls-Bridges Post No. 13

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Phone: (850-222-3382

August 19, 2005

Commissioner Ed DePuy
Leon County Board of County Commissioners
Leon County Court House
301 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Dear Commissioner DePuy:

Thank you for meeting with me August 15, 2005 to discuss some critical needs at the American Legion Post. The building was erected in 1925 and adequately served the needs of the membership. We are pleased to say this same facility continues to serve as the Post home for a larger membership (400) and as a historical gathering site for a wide variety of events for the community.

For years the Auxiliary has needed a suitable meeting room and storage space. The Auxiliary continues to be a viable part of the American Legion and a contributing element to our youth and the community. Their meeting room has become an over crowded storage area with a table and a few chairs where dignitaries, visitors and prospective new members meet.

The engineering firm of a Post 13 member has drawn plans at no cost for an adjoining addition. Bids dated four months ago put the cost of the proposed addition at \$40,000. The existing Auxiliary room could be used by the Legion for critical storage space and other needs.

The Legion hall floor was last improved more than 33 years ago and is unsightly for our Post. Severe wear of the floor is obvious and repair work must be done relatively soon for continued use. Bids dated four months ago for essential floor repair work put the cost at approximately \$16,000.

"For God and Country"
Meetings-Second and Fourth Thursdays

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Membership dues are a major source of Post income but do not meet all needs. It is expensive to maintain the facilities in a manner that continues to provide a desirable meeting site for many groups-functions-charities-forums, many of which are often provide at no cost.

Essential needs outlined above presently are confronting the Post and assistance of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners is sought. There are no records indicating a request for assistance has been made in the past. The facility is old and we continue in our efforts to keep it presentable and usable in honor of those who have made a difference. American Legion Post 13 would be highly appreciative if Leon County could support our ongoing efforts by funding \$40,000 for our much needed Auxiliary room and \$16,000 to repair and restore the floor.

We respectfully request your favorable consideration to honor this request.

Respectfully,

Commander